

Virginia Battlefield Preservation Conference - 10/24/14



# Battlefield Preservation in the Shenandoah Valley





## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

**Regionalism means:**

**the whole can be greater than the sum of its parts.**



# Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

## An Overview

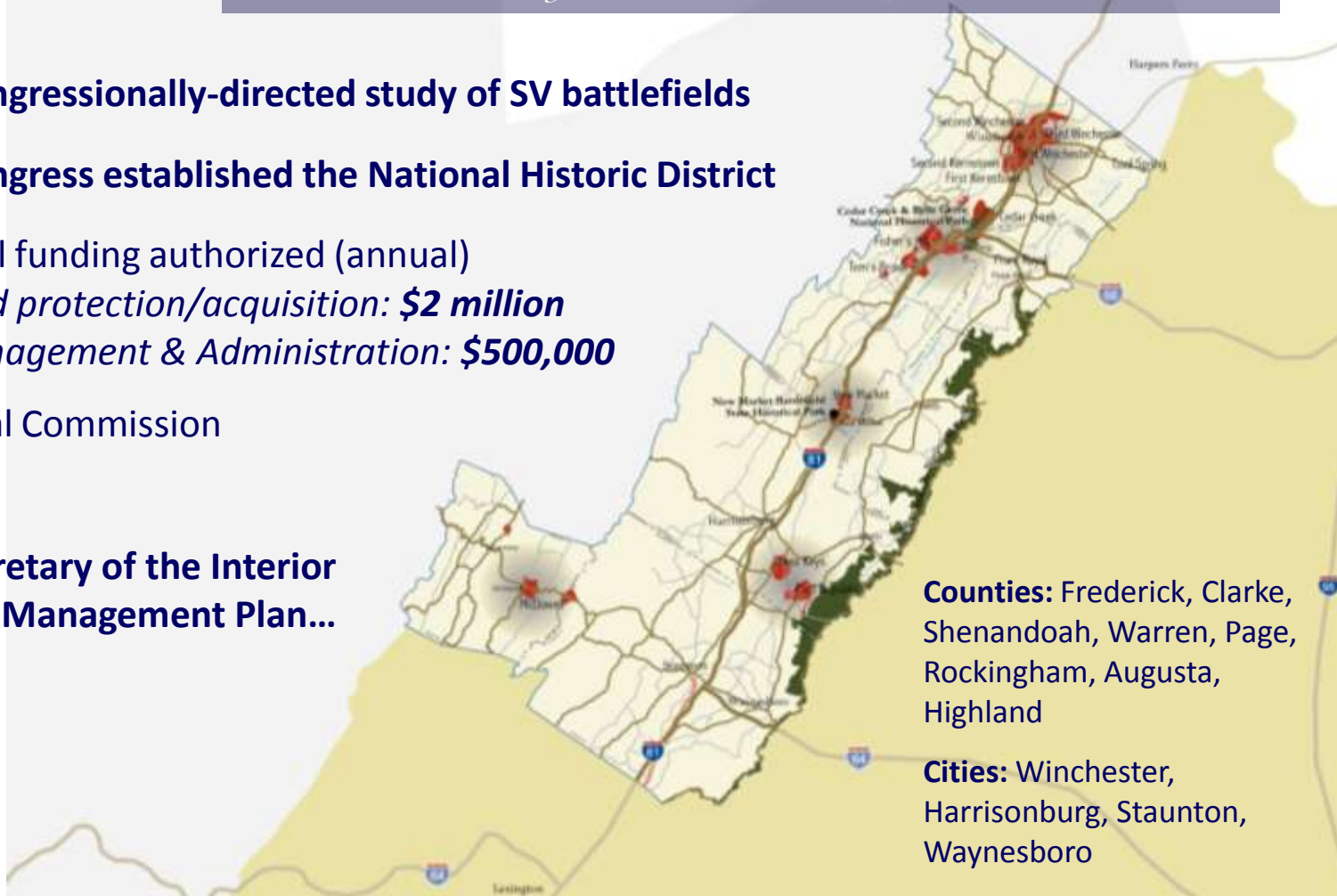
*“...to preserve, conserve, and interpret the legacy of the Civil War in the Shenandoah Valley...”* --SVBNHD&C Act of 1996

- 1992: Congressionally-directed study of SV battlefields
- 1996: Congress established the National Historic District

- Federal funding authorized (annual)
  - Land protection/acquisition: **\$2 million**
  - Management & Administration: **\$500,000**

- Federal Commission

- 2000: Secretary of the Interior approved Management Plan...



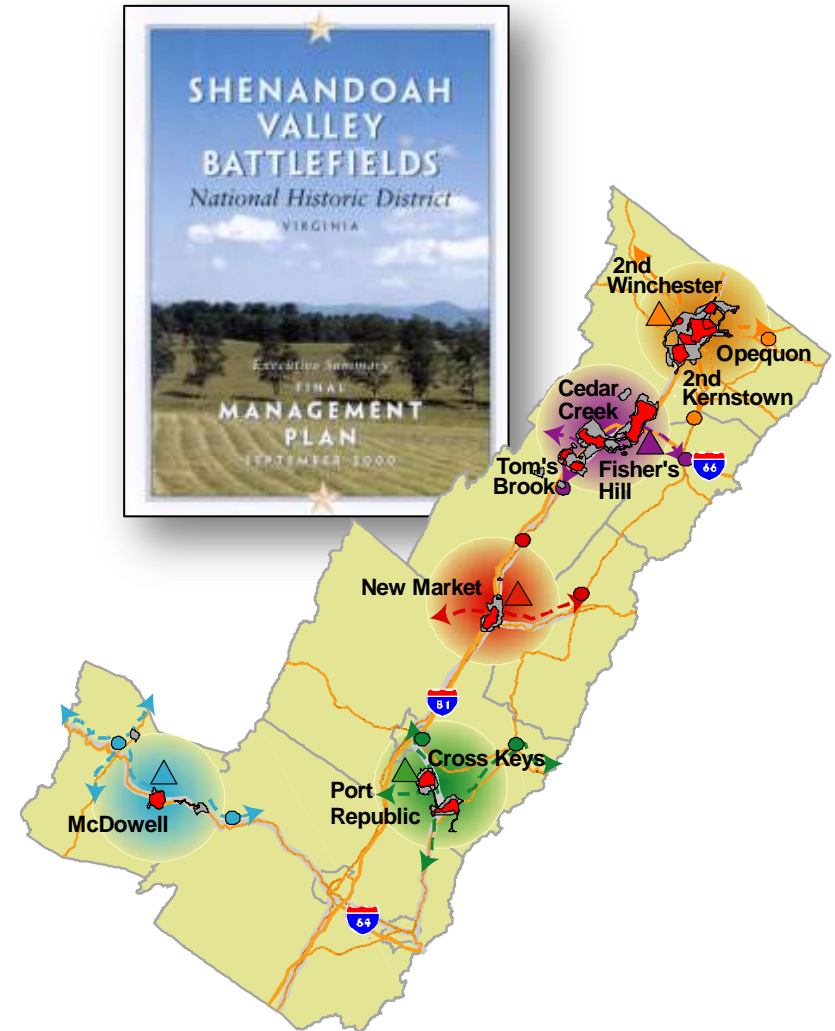


## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

# SVBNHD Management Plan: Local Emphasis

- 2 years, 90 public meetings across Valley
- The Plan:
  - preservation through partnership
  - local government representation on Commission, SVBF Board
  - Endorsed by almost all localities
  - Create a non-profit to implement plan: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation

***Shenandoah County provided half of the funds for SVBF's first preservation project in 2001 -- Fisher's Hill battlefield.***





## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

# Resource Protection: The Battlefields

- 10 battlefields:
  - *Second Winchester*
  - *Third Winchester*
  - *Second Kernstown*
  - *Cedar Creek*
  - *Fisher's Hill*
  - *Tom's Brook*
  - *New Market*
  - *Cross Keys*
  - *Port Republic*
  - *McDowell*
- Protection opportunities:
  - purchase in fee, easement (no condemnation authority)
  - Preservation planning
  - Promote good land use decision-making (e.g. transportation corridors, other impacts)







## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

### Resource Protection: Progress Made

- 7,786 acres protected total
- 4,477 acres by SVBF and partners
- 3,563 acres SVBF ownership interest
- More than 2,000 acres in the preservation pipeline
- Landowner-directed preservation plans in place for five of the ten legislated battlefields



## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

### Resource Protection: Funding

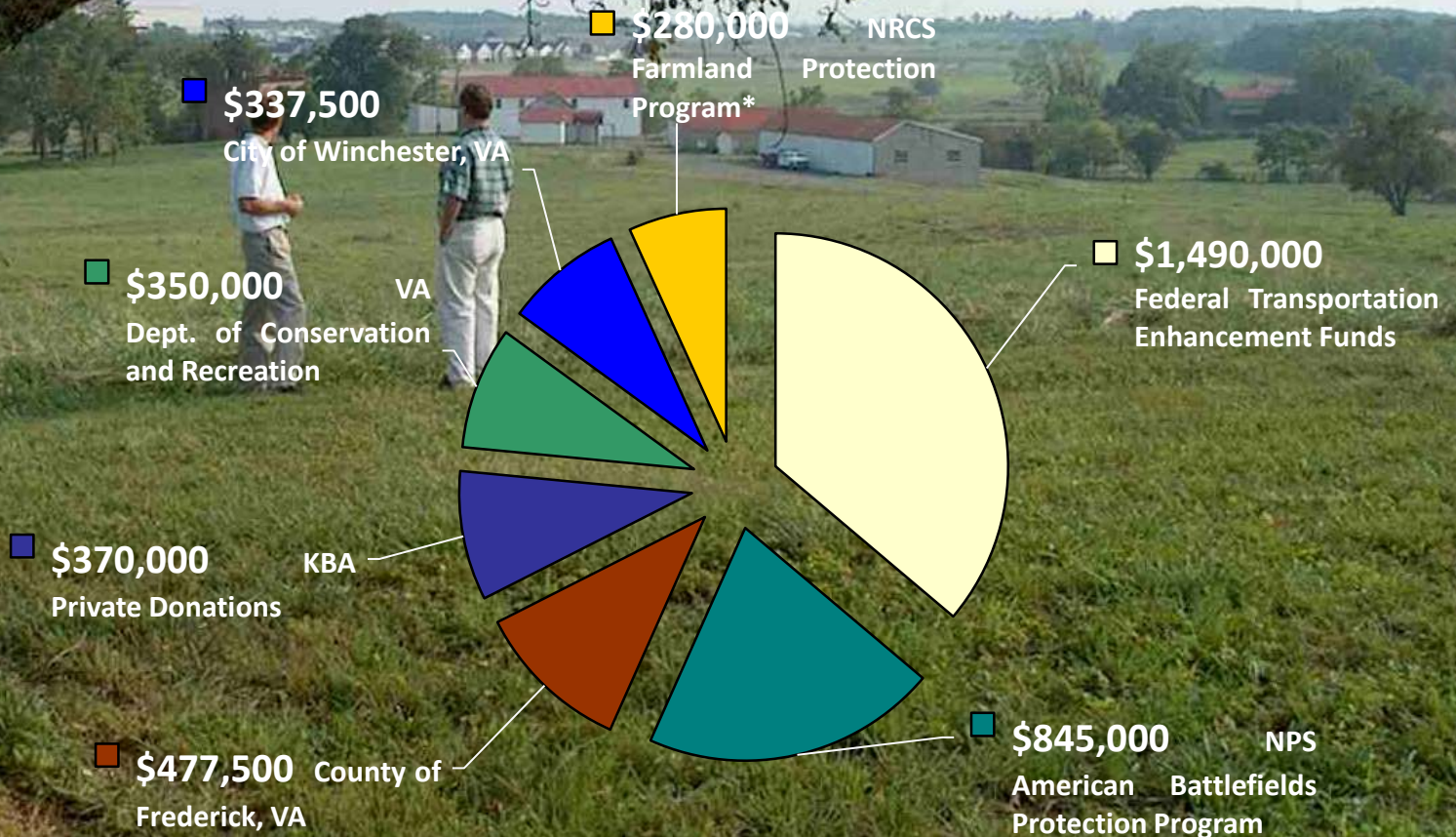
- SVBNHD federal funds: \$10.6 million
- State and Federal grants: \$7.1 million
- \$310,000 from local government
- \$2.6 million in private funds
- Total: \$20.4 million





## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

# KERNSTOWN BATTLEFIELD ACQUISITION \$4,150,000 TOTAL

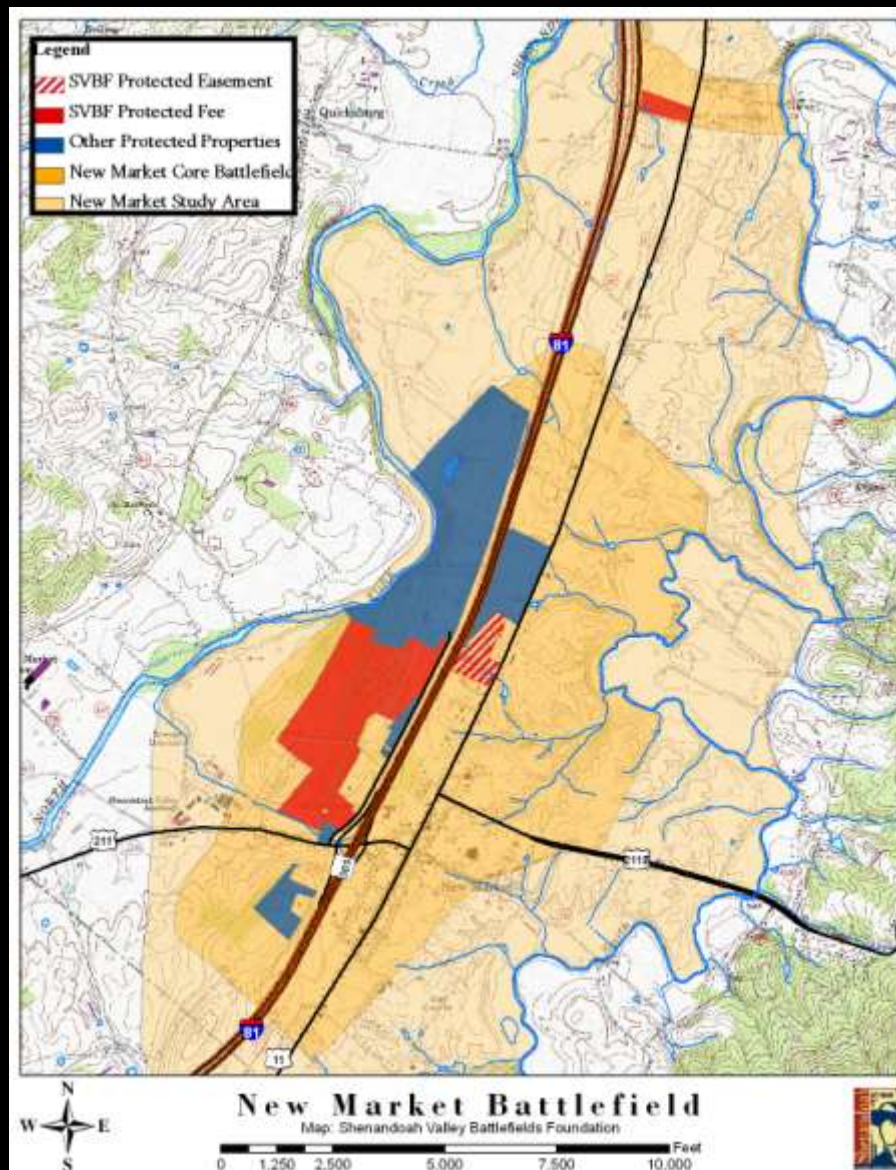






## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

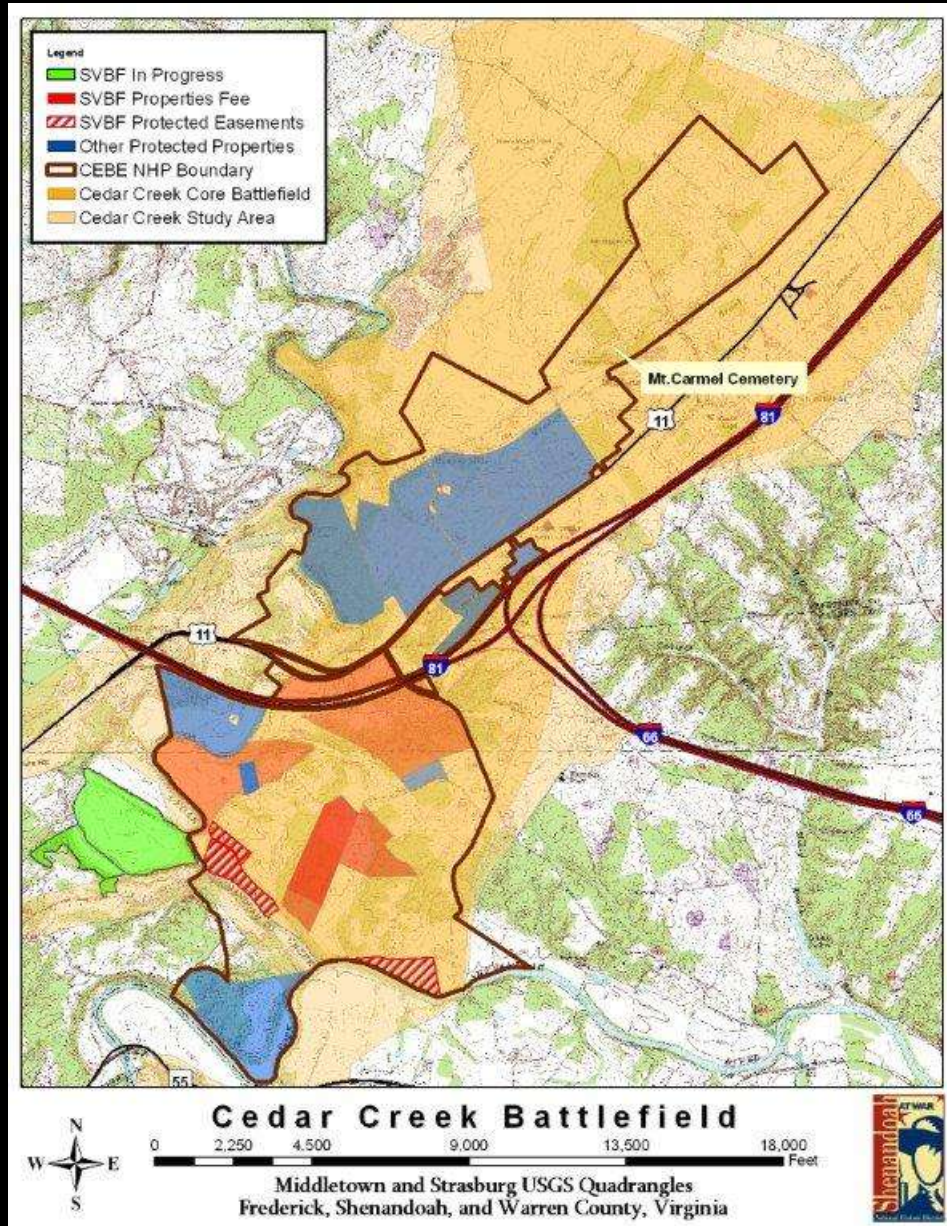
**New Market:  
Purchase and  
resale**





## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

# Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park







## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

# Huntsberry Farm at Third Winchester

- Frederick County – political will
- Leveraged funding / partners
- DHR easement

Virginia Land Conservation Foundation	\$ 1,000,000
Civil War Preservation Trust	380,000
American Battlefield Protection Program	1,230,000
SVBF private	628,000
Frederick County, VA	112,000
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,350,000





## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

### Virginia Land Conservation Foundation

- Four properties
- Three battlefields
- 605 acres in fee
- \$1,992,000
- \$3,293/acre





**Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District**

# **Virginia Civil War Site Preservation Fund**



- **Six properties / four battlefields**
- **688 acres in five conservation easements, 13 acres in fee**
- **\$678,403 (\$986/acre)**



## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

### Proffers

- Annual per unit fee for restoration of Star Fort
- \$1,500 per unit due w/ occupancy permit for preservation fund
  - Huntsberry
  - Kernstown







## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

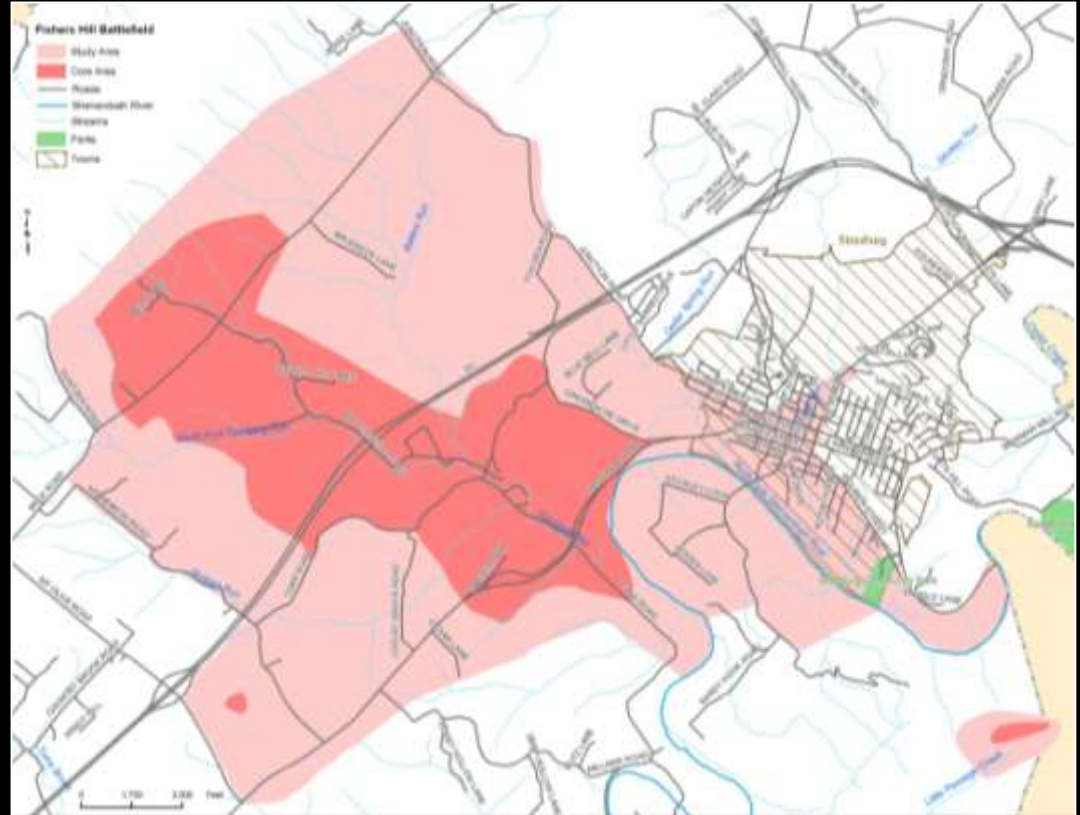
# Fisher's Hill & Tom's Brook Battlefields Preservation Plan

## Project Overview

**Funding: American  
Battlefield Protection  
Program**

**Fiscal Agent and Project  
Partner: Shenandoah  
County**

**Landowner Steering  
Committee**



Fisher's Hill battlefield – core and study areas



## Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District

# Fisher's Hill & Tom's Brook Battlefields Preservation Plan

## Final Plan...

Inventory of Historic Resources

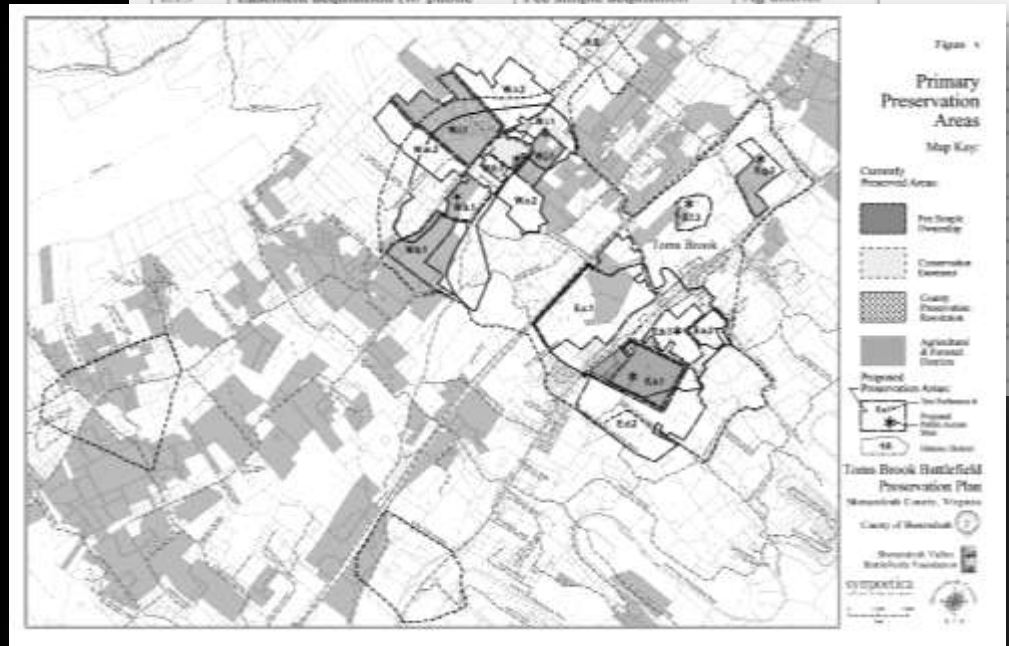
Parcel-specific  
Recommendations

Recommendations for Entire  
Battlefield

Preservation Ranking System  
(from *SVBNHD Management Plan*)

- Adopted by Shenandoah County -- part of county policy
- SVBF Implementation -- results

Area	Ideal Tool	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
E.a.1	Easement donation and Ag district	Memorandum of understanding and Ag district	Ag district	
E.b.1	Fee simple acquisition	Easement acquisition	Ag district	
E.c.1	Easement acquisition	Fee simple acquisition	Ag district	
E.d.2	Easement acquisition	Ag district		
E.e.2	Easement acquisition	Ag district		
E.f.3	Easement acquisition (w/ public	Fee simple acquisition	Ag district	



Tom's Brook battlefield: parcel map and parcel-specific recommendations



## **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District**

### **Local Battlefield Preservation Tools and Techniques**

- **comprehensive plan policies and recommendations to preserve the battlefields**
- **battlefield zoning district with design guidelines or standards**
- **agricultural and forestal districts**
- **establishment of National Register Of Historic Places and Virginia Landmarks Register historic districts**
- **adoption of historic district overlay zoning**
- **designation of battlefield roads as Virginia Byways**
- **agricultural support programs**
- **purchase of development rights program**
- **easements on county-owned battlefield land**
- **transfer of development rights programs**
- **fee simple acquisition of land (purchase or donation)**
- **Land use and transportation planning**
- **Large lot zoning**
- **Proffers**





# **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation**

**PO Box 897  
New Market, Virginia 22844**

**540.740.4545**

**John D. Hutchinson V, AICP  
Conservation Director  
[jhutch@svbf.net](mailto:jhutch@svbf.net)**

**[www.ShenandoahAtWar.org](http://www.ShenandoahAtWar.org)**